

Interboro School District

2021 – 2022 Health and Safety Plan Revisions Summary - Board Approved 2/16/22

A. Universal Masking

New:

- ✓ The district will follow any state, federal, and local mandates.
- ✓ The district will consider recommendations, guidance and data from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab, and local health departments.
- ✓ The district will no longer be mandating universal indoor masking for students and staff effective February 22, 2022.
- ✓ PreK students, teachers, and para- professionals are required to mask until the COVID vaccine is available for children under the age of five.
- ✓ Mask wearing by staff/peers may be required in individual cases/classrooms situations if necessary for a student to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) or access their education due to a disability or handicap.
- ✓ The Superintendent, in consultation with the Board, and medical consultant, may take emergency action to require universal masking in a school building or grade level, to respond to any outbreak or illness.

Remain:

- ✓ In accordance with the CDC's order on wearing masks on public transportation, masks are **required to be worn by school bus passengers and drivers, regardless of any local mask policy or recommendation.**

CDC Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Remove:

A **Face Covering is defined as-** a means covering of the nose and mouth with material that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face: (mask, shield, or gaiter). Referencing the American Association for Aerosol Research published January 7, 2021, the CDC has concluded that face masks and neck gaiters are preferable to face shields as source control devices for cough aerosols.

For the 2021-2022 School Year, both the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Department of Health recommend that schools follow guidance published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for implementing safe in-person learning this fall.

CDC guidance recommends schools maintain 3ft of physical distance between classmates. When this cannot be achieved, again, it is recommended to layer additional prevention strategies together – such as indoor masking - to ensure that in-person instruction can be prioritized. On August 5, 2021, the CDC updated its guidance to reiterated, *given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the guidance for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.*

Just as last year, there is no requirement for schools to follow CDC guidance, but they are strongly encouraged to do so as they represent the best public health recommendation for schools.

During the following transmission levels in Delaware County, masking status will follow below -

High- Masks are **mandatory** for staff, students, and visitors.

Substantial- Masks are **highly recommended** for staff, students, and visitors.

Moderate- Masks are **recommended** for staff, students, and visitors.

Low - Masks are **optional** for vaccinated staff, students, and visitors.

B. Physical Distancing

New:

- ✓ The district will consider recommendations and guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab and local Health Departments.
- ✓ Desks will remain at least 3ft apart through the remainder of the 21/22 school year.

Remain:

- ✓ Pennsylvania lifted the order for physical distancing and occupancy limits on May 31, 2021. With the lifting of the Order, all school buildings and offices will not require specific social distancing requirements.
- ✓ School buildings and offices will allow for full occupancy.
- ✓ If needed, the district will consider directional hallways and stairwells with coordinated classroom dismissals/arrivals/departures.
- ✓ Lunch spaces will be monitored for implementation of mitigation strategies.

Remove:

- ✓ Desk/lunch shields are available if necessary.
- ✓ If needed, schools will reduce student density where possible or when necessary.
- ✓ Signage indicating distancing may be posted.

D. Cleaning and Ventilation

Remain:

- ✓ The district utilizes EPA Approved Disinfectants for use against COVID-19. There will be routine cleaning of our buildings, classrooms, common areas, and office spaces.
- ✓ The district will ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors when possible. The district will change filters regularly for these systems (4x per year, during occupancy).

Remove:

- ✓ If there is a case of COVID-19, a cleaning and disinfecting of the area will take place.
- ✓ If a positive case is identified, additional cleaning and disinfecting of contacted areas will be done.

E. Contact Tracing

New:

- ✓ The district will follow any state, federal or local mandates.
- ✓ The district will consider recommendations and guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab and local health departments.
- ✓ The district will follow any requirement to report all confirmed cases of COVID- 19 to the appropriate health department.
- ✓ The district will follow any requirements to isolate any confirmed positive COVID- 19 individuals.
- ✓ The district will not conduct close contact tracing, while in the school setting, unless otherwise ordered by state, federal or local authorities.
- ✓ If a student has been in close contact with someone outside of school, who tested positive for COVID –19, either a household or non-household member, please complete the appropriate google form (under the attendance reporting tab) on the Interboro School District Webpage and follow current local or state guidance.
- ✓ Close contact household members will be expected to follow quarantine guidance, as recommended by the CDC/CHOP.
- ✓ Any staff member who has tested positive for COVID – 19 will notify their direct supervisor, building principal and HR Department. Guidance on isolation will be provided to the individual.

Removed:

- ✓ The district will provide the health department, as required, a list of close contact (s)of individuals who were in contact with the COVID- 19 positive individual while at school to the best of its ability.
- ✓ The district will support and implement public health guidance on isolation and quarantines. The district has adopted the modified quarantine as outlined by the CDC, PA Dept of Health and CHoP Policy Lab.
- ✓ Students, staff, or contractors, who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are probable cases, shall notify their direct supervisor or principal immediately. Guidance on isolation will be provided to the individual.
- ✓ Students, staff, or contractors, who were in close contact with a COVID-19 positive case, must notify the program administrator/principal immediately. These individuals will be provided guidance whether to isolate or quarantine as per guidelines of the CDC or health department.

F. Diagnostic Testing

Remain:

- ✓ The district will follow its *Immunization and Communicable Diseases* Policy for guidance on communicable diseases as COVID-19 is classified as such.
- ✓ The district will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for nursing staff who are in close contact with individuals who are or may be ill with COVID – 19.
- ✓ Parents and guardians are required to self-screen their child prior to reporting to school or programs and keep their child home if experiencing any symptoms outlined in the chart below.
- ✓ The district may implement a rapid antigen testing program for individuals who become symptomatic or are close contacts.

Revised:

- ✓ The district requires staff, visitors/volunteers to self-screen prior to reporting to work, programs, and schools and stay at home if experiencing any symptoms as outlined in the chart below.
- ✓ Staff, students, visitors/volunteers who are ill must stay home from work, school, and afterschool programs.
- ✓ Students who feel sick or exhibits onset symptoms during the school day will report to the school nurse to be evaluated.
- ✓ Staff, visitors/volunteers must report to their immediate supervisor/principal if they are COVID-19 positive. These individuals will be provided isolation/quarantine guidance.

Remove:

- ✓ The district may implement a “Test to Stay” program in schools.

H. Coordinating with State and Local Officials

New:

- ✓ The district will report the number of positive cases and close contacts of COVID-19 to the health department.

Remain:

- ✓ The district will consult with their medical team and health department regarding specific cases or issues as needed.
- ✓ The Superintendent will participate in regularly scheduled county Chief School Administrators meetings.
- ✓ The district medical team will meet weekly with the Superintendent.
- ✓ The district will collaborate with state and local health officials as needed.

Remove:

- ✓ The district will generate contact lists as needed for state and local health officials